



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

CESO-ZA

26 Oct 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDERS/DIRECTORS, USACE COMMANDS,
DIRECTORS AND CHIEFS OF SEPARATE OFFICES,
HQUSACE

SUBJECT: USACE Accident Prevention Plan for FY 1999

1. We are at a critical juncture with our organization changing rapidly. To meet the challenges of the future I ask you to pledge to make safety and health inherent in all that we do. It makes sound business sense, and it is the right thing to do. Maintaining a safe and healthy workforce and ensuring the highest degree of safety performance for missions we execute, places us in a competitive position and shows others that we do walk our talk.


2. Accident prevention through strong leadership, assignment of responsibility and accountability, and risk-based hazard analysis is the bedrock for success. Therefore, I expect each commander to revisit the following three principles for safety success.

a. "The Buck Stops Here" - You are the safety officer. You set the tone for an open climate which results in participation by all. You provide the emphasis and are responsible for the culture that exists in your organization. Your safety and occupational health office supports you in this, but ultimately, success or failure rests with you.

b. "Responsibility and Accountability" - Communicate clear lines of responsibility and accountability for safety and health within your organization, then follow up to verify.

c. "Hazard Recognition, Analysis and Control" - Use proven safety tools. Our safety manual requires that position and activity hazard analyses be conducted. Task your senior managers to ensure this is accomplished. On the job site, encourage a teaming approach through verbal discussions in developing and reviewing these hazard analyses prior to performing the work at hand.

3. As the Corps Safety Officer, I am proud of our achievements and optimistic about our future capability to ensure safety remains integral to all we do. Essayons!


JOE N. BALLARD
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding